Historic Preservation

Historic preservation efforts are at the forefront of Smart Growth. Preservationists were the first to recognize that historic structures and landscapes foster a sense of place and pride in communities. But more than that, preservationists have demonstrated that historic preservation is an economic development tool that generates more jobs, tourism, affordable housing, and downtown investment than new construction. Smart Growth recognizes the social and economic significance of historic and seeks to preserve these assets.

Case examples

- A land-marked elementary school in Port Washington, New York, was re-fitted for apartments for seniors, a children's center, and performance space, and its playground re-configured into a community park and gardens. (For more information, go to http://www.portwashington.org/landmark)
- In Dayton, Ohio, warehouses built in 1893 -1911 have been redeveloped to house 156 market-rate residential lofts above 36,000 square feet of retail on the ground floor. The restoration creates a neighborhood and connects two adjoining historic and cultural districts. (For more information, go to http://www.nationaltrust.org)